

OCT 23 2006

Amendment

Application No. 10/523570
Page 3

Attorney Docket No. H01.21-11770-US01

Amendments To The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Device for actuating double seat valves, especially for the food and beverage industry, comprising
- with two a first closing element (3) elements (3, 4) and a second closing element (4), the first and second closing elements (3, 4) movable independently of one another;
 - which enclose between them a leakage chamber (5), the leakage chamber (5) being enclosed by the first and second closing elements (3, 4),
 - which is the leakage chamber (5) being connected over at least one path of travel with the environment of [[the]] a double seat valve,
 - with the independently actuated, the first closing element (3) being designed as a sliding piston,
 - [[that]] after a partial stroke comes to rest on the dependently actuated the first closing element (3) coming to rest on the second closing element (4), the second closing element designed as a seat disc, the second closing element (4) having a further opening movement, the partial stroke and the further opening movement causing and likewise transfers this with its further opening movement into a full open position (H)[[.]] ;
 - with valve stems (3a, 203, 403 ; 4a, 204) a first control rod (3a, 203) and a second control rod (4a, 204), the first and second control rods (3a, 203, 4a, 204) fitting which fit into one another in a telescoping manner and that extend extending outward on the side of the second closing element (4) from a valve housing (1),
 - over which the closing elements (3, 4), additionally to the [[fully]] open position (H), and independent of each other, each are able to be brought in a partially open position (T1, T2) the first closing element (3) having a first partially open position (T1) and the second closing element (4) having a second partially open position (T2),
 - whereby the [[fully]] full open position (H) [[is]] being generated through a main adjustment device (100) and in the opposite direction partially open positions (T1, T2) through the respective closing element (3, 4) assigned individual adjustment devices (200; 200.1, 200.2) an individual adjustment device (200) comprising a first individual adjustment device (200.1) and a second individual adjustment device (200.2), the first individual adjustment device

Application No. 10/523570
Page 4

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. H01.21-11770-US01

(200.1) generating the first partially open position (T1) of the first closing elements (3) and the second individual adjustment device (200.2) generating the second partially open position (T2) of the second closing element (4);

- and ~~[[the]]~~ an adjustment of the first and second closing elements (3, 4) [[is]] being done by actuating pistons (104, 205, 206 or 206/206.1) a first actuating piston (104), a second actuating piston (205) and a third actuating piston (206 or 206/206.1) loaded by a pressurizing medium acting on the first and second control rods (3a, 203; 4a, 204),

characterized in that

- the first and second individual adjustment devices (200; 200.1, 200.2) are designed independently and are additively inserted between the main adjustment device (100) and the valve housing (1),
- ~~[[that]]~~ the third ~~[[working]]~~ actuating piston (206; 206/206.1) [[is]] being positioned axially moveable on the second control [[rods]] rod (4a, 204), which are the second control rod (4a, 204) designed as being hollow [[rods]], the second control rod (4a, 204) surrounding the first control [[rods]] rod (3a, 203) and [[is]] able to be brought with [[this]] the first control rod (3a, 203) in the direction of the second partially open position (T2) in a clamping connection,
- ~~[[that]]~~ the second actuating piston (205) ~~[[is]]~~ being permanently connected on [[the]] one side with the first control rod (3a, 203) which adjusts the first closing element (3),
- ~~that it is~~ the first control rod (3a, 203) being alternatively directly or indirectly axially movable positioned on a first actuator stem (103) of the main adjustment device (100) and [[is]] able to be brought with [[this]] the first actuator stem (103) in the direction of the [[fully]] full open position (T1) in a clamping connection,
- ~~and that it is~~ the second actuating piston (205) being able to be loaded with pressurizing medium on each of its two piston surfaces.

2. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized,

- in that the ~~individual adjustment devices (200; 200.1, 200.2)~~ first and second individual adjustment devices (200.1, 200.2) are arranged in a single housing (201/202) designed from two housing members (201, 202) comprising a third housing member (201) and a fourth housing member (202), a second actuating piston (205), a third actuating piston (206 or

Application No. 10/523570
Page 5

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. H01.21-11770-US01

206/206.1), and there with their actuating pistons (205, 206 or 206/206.1) form three pressurizing medium chambers (200a, 200b, 200c or 200c/200c*) the third and fourth housing members (201, 202) and the second and third actuating pistons (205, 206 or 206/206.1) forming a second pressurizing medium chamber (200a), a third pressurizing medium chamber (200b) and a fourth pressurizing medium chamber (200c or 200c/200c*). each of the second, third and fourth pressurizing medium chambers (200a, 200b, 200c or 200c/200c*) being able to be controlled independently of each other,

- and that the second pressurizing medium chamber (200a) is formed being between the second actuating piston (205) and the third housing member (201), the third pressurizing medium chamber (200b) is formed being between the third actuating piston (206) and the fourth housing member (202) and the fourth pressurizing medium chamber (200c or 200c/200c*) is formed being between the two actuating pistons (205, 206) second and third actuating pistons (205, 206).

3. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first actuator stem (103, 103a) of the main adjustment device (100) extends out from the [[latter]] main adjustment device (100) in the direction of the first and second individual adjustment device (200; 200.1, 200.2) and there is guided moveable axially into the front end of [[the]] a second actuator stem (203, 203a or 203a*), which is the second actuator stem being permanently connected with the first control rod (3a), up to a stop face (203d).
4. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the third actuating piston (206) on its side facing the second actuating piston (205) is connected tightly with a smaller diameter additional piston (206.1), but the third actuating piston (206) is however able to be loosened, [[that]] the additional piston (206.1) working together with a housing ring (213.1) fixed on [[the]] third and fourth housing members (201/202) of the individual adjustment device (200) forms a fifth pressurizing medium chamber (200d), which the fifth pressurizing medium chamber (200d) is connected with a third pressurizing medium chamber (200b), the third pressurizing medium chamber formed between the third actuating piston (206) and the fourth housing member (202), and that with the introduction of a third pressurizing

Application No. 10/523570
Page 6

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. H01.2I-11770-US01

medium flow (D3) to the third pressurizing medium chamber (200b) [[also]] an additional force affecting the additional piston (206.1) results additionally in the fifth pressurizing medium chamber (200d), which additively superimposes on [[the]] a force affecting the third actuating piston (206).

5. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 4, characterized in that the additional piston (206.1) has a larger diameter exterior piston section (206.1a) and a smaller diameter interior piston section (206.1b), that the interior piston section (206.1b) is sealed on its frontal end from the third actuating piston (206) and the interior piston section (206.1b) is screwed with [[this]] the third actuating piston (206), that the exterior piston section (206.1a) is sealed on its circumference from the shell of a cylindrical cutout (213.1a) in the housing ring (213.1), [[and]] the interior piston section (206.1b) is sealed on its circumference in a coaxial through bore (213.1b) in the housing ring (213.1), and that in [[the]] a connection area of the third actuating piston (206) with the additional piston (206.1) are arranged in the ~~former~~ third actuating piston (206) a first pressurizing medium channel (206b) and in the ~~latter~~ additional piston (206.1) a second pressurizing medium channel (206.1d), which correspond with one another and connect the third pressurizing medium chamber (200b) and the fifth pressurizing medium chamber (200d) with one another permeable to the pressurizing medium.
6. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 4, characterized in that the housing ring (213.1) has a radial projection (213.1c) on its circumference, with which the housing ring (213.1) is fixed interlocking in [[the]] a connection area between the third and [[the]] fourth housing members (201, 202).
7. (Currently Amended) Device according to one of the Claim 4, characterized in that a fourth pressurizing medium connection (210) for an alternate first pressurizing medium flow (D. 4) for loading of the second actuating piston (205) located in the third housing member (201) discharges in a preceding fourth pressurizing medium chamber

Application No. 10/523570
Page 7

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. H01.2I-11770-US01

(200c*) in ~~[[the]]~~ an area between the third actuating piston (206) and the housing ring (213.1), and that the preceding fourth pressurizing medium chamber (200c*) is connected with ~~[[a]]~~ the fourth pressurizing medium chamber (200c) formed between the second actuating piston (205) on one side and the housing ring (213.1) in connection with the additional piston (206.1) on the other side through at least one connection channel (213.1d), which is located in an exterior part of the housing ring (213.1) containing ~~[[the]]~~ a cylindrical cutout (213.1a) ~~on the exterior~~.

8. **(Currently Amended)** Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~[[the]]~~ an end-of-travel limit of the second actuating piston (205) for the first partially open position (T1) and that of the third actuating piston (206; 206/206.1) for the second partially open position (T2) is done by a stop ring (213) or a housing ring (213.1), axially moveable on both sides, and permanently located on ~~[[the]]~~ third and fourth housing members (201/202) between the second and third actuating pistons (205, 206).
9. **(Currently Amended)** Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that the fourth pressurizing medium chamber (200c) is connected according to ~~[[the]]~~ a stream with a first pressurizing medium connection (7b), which is provided with a control device (7) located in ~~[[the]]~~ a connection to the main adjustment device (100).
10. **(Currently Amended)** Device according to Claim 2, characterized in that the fourth pressurizing medium chamber (200c) is connected in the direction of ~~[[the]]~~ a stream to a fourth pressurizing medium connection (210), which is provided on the third and fourth housing members (201/202) of the individual adjustment device (200).
11. **(Currently Amended)** Device according to Claim 9, characterized in that the respective first pressurizing medium connection (7b) ~~(7b; 210)~~ is also additionally connected in the direction of the stream with a first pressurizing medium chamber (100a) of the main adjustment device (100).

Application No. 10/523570
Page 8

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. H01.2I-11770-US01

12. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first actuator stem (103) is arranged able to rotate against the second actuating piston (205) or with ~~[[the]]~~ a second actuator stem (203, 203a or 203a*) connected with this.
13. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 12, characterized in that ~~[[the]]~~ a frontal end of the first actuator stem (103) supports a header (103a), which engages in a cutout (203b) inside a headpiece (203a or 203a*) formed on ~~[[a]]~~ the second actuator stem (203), the headpiece (203a or 203a*) having ~~[[and]]~~ a diameter enlarged in comparison to ~~[[it]]~~ the second actuator stem (203).
14. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 13, characterized in that a plain bearing bush (212) is located between the header (103a) and the cutout (203b).
15. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first control rod (3a) is screwed with the second actuator stem (203) in the area of the second individual adjustment device (200.2), that a position indicator rod (7a) is provided which each time concentrically penetrates ~~[[the]]~~ a first actuator stem (103, 103a) completely and the second actuator stem (203, 203a or 203a*) up to the first control rod (3a), which ends on one side in a control device (7) and on the other side is screwed into the second actuator stem (203) with its frontal end and thereby counter secures the screw connection with its assigned second end surface (7c) between the control rod and the actuator first control rod (3a, 203) of ~~[[the]]~~ a first end surface (3b).
16. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 15, characterized in that the position indicator rod (7a) forms a continuous ring channel (106) with the first actuator stem (103), ~~[[the]]~~ a header (103a), ~~[[the]]~~ a headpiece (203a; 203a*) and the second actuator stem (203), each of which it surrounds in the named sequence, which branches over ~~[[the]]~~ a first cross hole (106a) in ~~[[the]]~~ a first pressurizing medium chamber (100a) of the main adjustment device (100) and over ~~[[the]]~~ a second cross hole (203c) in ~~[[the]]~~ a fourth pressurizing medium chamber (200c) of the individual adjustment device (200).

Application No. 10/523570
Page 9

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. H01.2I-11770-US01

17. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~[[the]]~~ a housing member (101, 102) of the main adjustment device (100) and each (201, 202) housing of the individual adjustment devices (200) are made from housing rough parts of the same shape.
18. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~[[the]]~~ a housing member (101, 102) of the main adjustment device (100) and each (201, 202) housing of the individual adjustment devices (200) are each integrally joined together.
19. (Currently Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first, second and third actuating pistons (104, 205, 206, 206/206.1) are made of corrosion resistant light alloy metal.